

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-5. Cancelled

6. (Currently Amended) A silencer for a vacuum cleaner, comprising:

~~an~~ a longitudinal exhaust channel for passage of an exhaust airflow from the vacuum cleaner;

~~at least one~~ a plurality of silencing boards, disposed distance apart in parallel and perpendicular to the longitudinal exhaust channel, and mounted in the exhaust channel for passage of the exhaust airflow from the vacuum cleaner, ~~the~~ at least one of the silencing boards having a plurality of pores distributed throughout the silencing board and disposed in the longitudinal exhaust channel; and

wherein a total passage area of the pores is less than half of a cross-sectional area of the exhaust channel.

7. Cancelled

8. (Currently Amended) The silencer of claim 76, wherein a diameter of each of the plurality of pores is less than 6 mm.

9. (Currently Amended) A vacuum cleaner silencer, comprising:

~~an~~ a longitudinal exhaust channel for passage of an exhaust airflow from the vacuum cleaner;

a first silencing board, disposed perpendicular to the longitudinal exhaust channel, and mounted in the exhaust channel for passage of the exhaust airflow from the vacuum cleaner, the first silencing board having a plurality of round pores therein; and

a second silencing board, disposed distance apart from the first silencing board and perpendicular to the longitudinal exhaust channel, and mounted in the exhaust channel of the vacuum cleaner so as to be separated from and downstream of the first silencing board in a direction of the exhaust airflow, the second silencing board having a plurality of round pores therein.

10. Cancelled.